

100 Days

*A spoken word performance conceived by Mandy Morrison
with Percussion by Gabriella Dennery,
and text by Contributing Performers*

December 7, 2014, 4-6PM

Lyons Recreation Rotunda, Staten Island, NY

The acoustics of this rotunda are extremely sensitive to all types of sound. Please be considerate of our performers.

Special Thanks to NYC Parks and Recreation, Lyons Recreation Center Manager Bill LaCurtis, Lyons Staff and Chief Mary Cali for making this event possible.

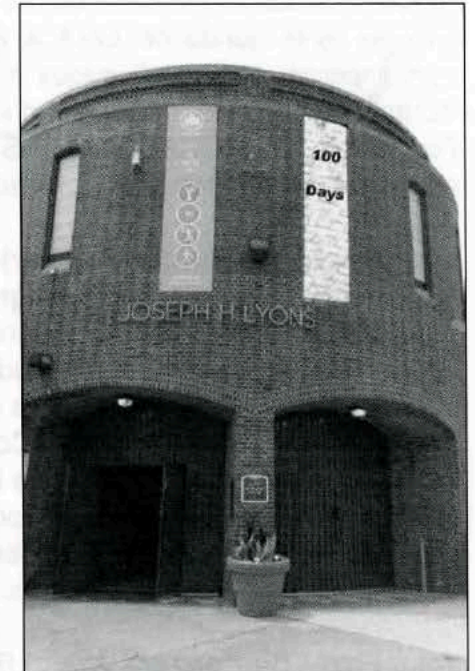


NYSCA
New York State Council on the Arts

*This project is made with the support of the
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100 Days is a percussion and spoken word performance, by a small group of participants. Spearheaded by Artist and Director Mandy Morrison, it illuminates a range of insights through interwoven narratives from diverse perspectives taking into account specific timeframes as a point of reference. The performance will take place in a historic NYC Parks building within blocks of where the death of Eric Garner occurred in August 2014.

Ever since Roosevelt pioneered the 100-day concept taking office during the Great Depression, it has been used by the U.S. public, the media, and scholars as a gauge of political success and activism. In the lives of ordinary people however, the number is often an arbitrary timeframe that can demarcate incremental changes and observations in the flow of daily life or a dramatic shift in one's personal landscape through unforeseen events. Morrison's novel approach to weaving narratives provides a platform for the personal voices of a few Staten Island individuals highlighting points of intersection as well as divergence.



Mandy Morrison (Artist-Director / Performer)

Morrison uses video and performance to explore how the body projects itself within varying contexts. She produced and directed the documentary film *Potential Partners* (2006), exploring who, and why we love. Her performance, video and film work have been exhibited and screened internationally in galleries, museums, and festivals including the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Brooklyn Museum, the Kunstlerhaus e.V., Hamburg, and CINESONIKA in Vancouver. As a distinguished educator she has been visiting faculty at Pratt Institute, and Rutgers University. Grants and honors include fellowships from the Illinois Arts Council, the Council on the Arts and Humanities on Staten Island, the New York Foundation for the Arts, and the New York State Council on the Arts, as well as residencies from the University of Wisconsin, and Ohio's Wexner Center for the Arts. (mandymachine.com)

**Gabriella Denney (Percussionist / Performer)
Founder, Artistic Director of GRACE DRUMS**

A Brooklyn based percussionist, arranger, and composer, Gabriella Denney left medical practice to pursue her love of music as a teacher and performer. Born in Canada of Haitian parents, she grew up with the infectious grooves of Haiti, African big band music, and 70's disco, pop and rock. Using time-honored West African percussion instruments, music and vocals from African & Caribbean cultures as its foundation, GRACE DRUMS bridges the traditional to the contemporary, adding influences in R&B & vocal improvisation. The result is vibrant original music of drum and song with universal cross-cultural appeal. Founded in 2010, GRACE DRUMS brings its unique style of percussive joy to audiences throughout NYC. (gracedrums.com)

Lori Greene (Performer / Writer)

A resident of Staten Island, Lori grew up in Harlem and New Jersey and attended St. Peter and Paul Grammar School and later, Cathedral High School in Manhattan. While a student at Cathedral, she developed an interest in poetry and was part of a poet's group with other girls at her school. She attended New York Community College and later worked as a Dental Assistant. Several years after the birth of her daughter she began a career in law enforcement where she worked for 20 years. She retired in 2008 and currently works in retail. She continues her poetry practice and maintains an active blog. Her other interests include herbal healing and Egyptology.

John Foxell (Performer / Writer) Born in Troy, New York, John graduated from NYU in 1966 with a BA in English. and received his MA in 1995. In over 44 years, he worked 29 different jobs and retired in 2005. He has been a Librarian, Postal worker, Child Protective Services worker, and worked in the Manhattan Family Court for Judge Judith Scheinplin. He took up writing poetry as a way to get over a heart attack suffered on 9/11/1001 and found release in arranging words to suit

himself in poems, memoirs and short stories. He also fashions small works from toys and found objects, and has had them in shows on both Staten island and Manhattan. He currently resides in Port Richmond on Staten Island.

Terry Bennett (Performer / Writer)

I was born in South Philadelphia in 1959. From age 7 until I moved out, I lived with my father, an actor who appeared in many Negro Ensemble Company productions and starred in two low-budget movies. In my teens, I was a rapper who performed at numerous Brooklyn community events and also studied the tenor saxophone. I struggled with drug and legal problems until my mid-thirties when I began a career selling stocks and other financial products. In 2008, I started the activist organization, North Americans Against A Police State.

Rachel Marie Carlson (Artist / Dancer)

Rachel Marie Carlson was raised in Connecticut. She has studied dance since she was a toddler and began in ballet, jazz, tap, and modern. In addition, she has also studied visual art and had her work shown in galleries. She is currently attending the Swedish Institute College of Health Sciences with a focus on Athletic / Medical Massage Therapy. She lives in Staten Island.

Angelo M. Angeles (Performer / Writer)

Angelo M. Angeles received his BFA in Painting from the School of Visual Arts in 2003. He has worked in various non-profit art organizations and art spaces, through internships, and volunteer work throughout New York City. These include the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, the Association of Hispanic Arts in El Barrio, Cuchifritos Art Gallery/Project Space on the Lower East Side, the Sculpture Center in Long Island City, and the Longwood Art Gallery in the South Bronx. He takes his influences from people in transit, color, dialogue, faded magazines and video, apparel, nature, familial and acquainted interactions, lyrics, humor, and so on. He is a native of Staten Island, New York, and currently resides on the North Shore.

Lauren Denitzio (Assistant Director / Social Media)

Lauren Denitzio is an interdisciplinary artist and writer whose practice encompasses drawing, painting, and collage as well as zines, site-specific text works and collaborative projects. Their practice examines psychological space and the representation of lives outside of heteronormative frameworks. Denitzio received their BFA at the Rhode Island School of Design in 2006 and recently completed an MFA in Fine Arts at Parsons the New School for Design. They are a founding member of For The Birds, a New York based feminist collective dedicated to challenging social inequality through DIY feminist cultural activism. Their writing and visual work has appeared in *Brass in Pocket*, *Sick Zine*, *International Girl Gang Underground*, *Hoax and RE/VISIONIST*. Denitzio lives and works in Brooklyn. (laurendenitzio.com)